

News from the Corps - Niagara Falls Storage Site Feasibility Study

Sent: Thu 8/21/08 11:18 AM

Hello from the Buffalo District of the US Army Corps of Engineers,

The purpose of this email is to update you on the adoption of a new project delivery process intended to increase public participation in the development of the Niagara Falls Storage Site (NFSS) Feasibility Study (FS). The FS will identify and evaluate a range of alternatives to be considered for the long-term remedy for the radioactive residues and wastes stored in the Interim Waste Containment Structure (IWCS) built by the US Department of Energy in the 1980s. It will also address potential long-term remedies for residual chemical and radiological contaminants in soil and water in other areas of the NFSS. The nature and extent of these contaminants is detailed in the Niagara Falls Remedial Investigation Report released in December 2007.

The Corps has revised its project delivery process to break down this large and complex report into its key components and release each component during its development to allow public review, comment, and coordination throughout the project lifecycle. These components will be released as individual documents known as "Technical Memoranda". These Technical Memoranda will serve as the building blocks for the Corp's comprehensive FS. This project delivery process will allow you to review individual components of the study report at the earliest possible time prior to the completion of the comprehensive report.

At this time the Corps anticipates the following Technical Memoranda to be produced during the development of the NFSS FS report:

- Definitions, Acronyms, Assumptions, Constraints
- Remedial Action Objectives (RAOs)
- Applicable or Relevant and Appropriate Requirements (ARARs)
- NFSS Future Land Use Scenarios
- Interim Waste Containment Structure Failure and Radiological Dose Assessment
- Radon Assessment
- Alternatives & Technologies To Be Evaluated
- Evaluation Criteria
- Groundwater Use
- Waste Disposal and Lessons Learned – Fernald, OH
- Transportation Analysis
- Residual Risk Management
- Cost Analysis

The Corps plans to sponsor public information sessions to discuss these Technical Memoranda throughout the project lifecycle. The Corps will accept and consider written comments on these Technical Memoranda. The NFSS FS is being developed in compliance with the laws enacted by Congress and the process established by the

United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). Additional information is available on the USEPA website:

<http://www.epa.gov/superfund/cleanup/index.htm>

We will soon be seeking your input to help us plan and schedule the Corps outreach activities through 2009. If you wish to be removed from this electronic mailing list, please contact me at 716-879-4438, reply to this e-mail or send an e-mail to: derpfuds@usace.army.mil.